

## **U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #127, JULY 2014**

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to [Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com](mailto:Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com). We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

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After chair Wally Turner (AZ) called the meeting of the US Forum to order, Dr. Beverly Helms led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendees saw an informative Power Point presentation highlighting the Forum's 2014 National Legislative Seminar held in DC in March.

Judy Jackson (TN) was elected as chair of the Forum and (SE) Carrie Frye (FL), (SW) Kathy Davis (OK), (NE) Carmela DeMarco (NJ), and (NW) Darlene Cook (OR) were elected as regional representatives. Jones Loflin, author and leadership speaker, in a most entertaining way, led the attendees through a process to reach consensus and develop an action plan on a legislative issue.

Loflin led participants through a process of the five C's, Creating a vision of success, Constructing a shared sense of urgency, Communicating to the right people, Crafting small concrete steps to success, and Celebrating small victories. He stressed that a shared sense of urgency can only be created by focusing on what others might gain, what they might lose, or what they have as a personal connection to the issue.

Using this process the regions identified the following key legislative issues:

- Non-educators, especially corporations, controlling education
- The detriment of tying student test scores to teacher evaluation/performance pay
- Human trafficking and its implication to children's lives and education
- Progress of our students and school safety issues for students and educators

The regional representatives and members will continue to focus on these issues throughout the biennium.

Report submitted by Sherry Watkins

**2014-16 FORUM COMMITTEE ELECTED**

Election results from the International Convention in Indianapolis

Chair – Judy Jackson (TN)

NE Regional Representative – Carmela DeMarco (NJ)

NW Regional Representative – Darlene Cook (OR)

SE Regional Representative – Carrie Frye (FL)

SW Regional Representative – Kathy Davis (OK)

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**FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK**

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

**FORUM WEB SITE** <http://bit.ly/DKGUSF>

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**CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION**

**U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION** can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard [1-866-327-8670](tel:1-866-327-8670) [this is a toll free number]. You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate  
White House [1-202-456-1111](tel:1-202-456-1111)

**FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.**